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"Our Home, Our Country, and Our Brother Man."

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THE FARMER.

E. HOLMES, Editor.

QUERY ABOUT HOGS.

MR. HOLMES—Dear Sir:—The business of raising hogs and making pork, is beginning to command more attention among farmers in this region than formerly, and it is highly important that they have all the facilities within their reach. For this purpose I wish to make an inquiry or two, as to the different breeds of swine which are recommended by different individuals through the Maine Farmer. Our hogs in this section, are mostly of the common breeds, which have been amongst us for years; and as I wish to purchase me a boar of a newer breed, I wish to know which will be the most profitable, every thing considered, to cross with ours? I have made some effort for a few years past to improve my swine by repeated crossing with those considered the best kinds amongst us, and have obtained in this way a very good quality of hogs; and wishing to make still further improvement, any information on this subject communicated forthwith through the Farmer by those who know will be thankfully received by at least one individual.

P****E.

Chesterfield, Oct. 22d, 1840.

NOTE.—Perhaps there is no domestic animal, unless it be the dog, that is capable of being moulded by breeders into so great a variety of shapes and sorts and sizes as the hog. This very facility of varying the shape makes it also very difficult to preserve a good breed when obtained, for unless the utmost care and attention be used they will very soon run out, as it is called.

The attention which has been paid for some years past to this animal both in England and in the United States has resulted in a few very excellent breeds.—Such as the Berkshire of the present day, which may be called modern Berkshires, for they vary essentially from the Berkshires of twenty years ago. The Bedfords, the Improved China—Tuscaroras, &c. &c. so that a person can suit himself to almost any kind he pleases. If he wishes to breed a variety different from others he can find stock enough to lay the foundation of it. A person who wishes to keep hogs, should first consider for what purpose he most wants or needs them. If he merely wishes to raise pork for his own table and wishes to have a fresh pig pretty often at not much cost, the improved China are undoubtedly best. They are a small "chunked" breed easily kept, quickly fattened and of very delicate flavor. A person who has a good range for them, can raise them almost as easy as he can sheep, as they graze well and require only a small quantity of extra food to keep them in good order, we have kept them, and used them, and speak from experience. If he wished to raise heavy pork for the market and wished to carry as much pork as possible in one carcass and had plenty of food to do it with, the large breeds are decidedly best and we would recommend the Berkshires to him. This breed may be found in many parts of our State. At Mr. Thatchers in Bangor, Mr. C. Vaughan, —Mr. J. W. Hains, and Dr. Nourse, Hallowell, and Capt. J. Wing of this town, has a prime boar of this breed which he purchased of Capt. Lombard of Wales who imported him from Liverpool. There is another large breed which is very good, for large pork. We do not know the particular name, if they have any, unless it be Hampshires. They were introduced into Maine by E. Coburn Esq., of Bloomfield, and we saw a fine drove of forty or more of them on his farm the other day. There is another breed imported into Woodstock, (N. Brunswick) by C. Perley Esq. We do not know the name of this, but like the form and shape.

We believe Mr. Huse of East Wilton, obtained some of him, but do not know how he has succeeded with them. Moses Taber of Vassalboro' has some fine specimens of Bedfords, but the full blood Bedfords are growing scarce and the Mackays are almost entirely gone from this section of the country. Mr. Glidden of this town can supply the Tuscaroras and a better breed for thickening up your long, lathy, fin back racers, we do not know. Some object to them as being too short, but there is this in it, a short hog always has some breadth and depth but it is too often the case that a long hog has a wonderful lack of any other dimension. The Berkshires perhaps combine as many good qualities of length, breadth, depth and feeding properties as most of the breeds now extant.

WILD RICE—(ZIZANIA AQUATICA.)

This is a species of wild grain that grows in the shoal waters about Lake Superior and other waters of the northern portions of the United States. It is nearly or quite as large as the oat, and is much sought after by wild fowl, and also affords food for the Indians, who gather it in considerable quantities. We see that the Editor of the New Genessee Farmer has obtained some of the seed for distribution—wish he would send us a few. Schoolcraft says it will grow freely North of latitude 41° North. If so it will grow with us in our ponds and lakes. If it can be started here and grow freely it will serve to toll more wild ducks and other fowls about, and mayhap a poor Editor may have the satisfaction of knowing that there is a wild duck cooked in his neighborhood if he never sees one himself.

"GLEANINGS IN HUSBANDRY."

This is the title of a neat monthly periodical which after having performed sundry peripatations about the State has at length reached us, and is made welcome to our table.

It is published and edited by Dr. Holbrook, Augusta, Georgia; and devoted to the interests of Agriculture. We are happy to find that there is one man in that State who has courage enough to start such a periodical. If the citizens will support it well, it will be of great and lasting benefit to them. They may say what they please—the Southern States with all their advantages of climate and situation are behind the New Englanders in agricultural improvements, and the New Englanders are far behind what they ought to be in this respect. We wish the Gleaner and his Gleanings an abundant harvest of success. There are some excellent articles in it, which we shall occasionally copy.

CURIOUS APPLE.

We have been presented with a curious apple by Mr. E. BAILEY of this town, which grew in his orchard.

It is one quarter russet, and three quarters something else. The russet part looks as if it were put in by art, so even and well defined are the lines which separate it from the other part, which is light, smooth, fair and yellow.

Mr Bailey's account of it is as follows:—Two trees one a russet and the other a very different fruit, grow so near each other that their branches interlock; and this apple grew on one of these branches, he does not know which. It is probable that the pollen from the blossoms of one was completely imbibed by a part of the stamens in the blossom of the other, that it fully impregnated a portion of the fruit, and this singular hybrid is the product. It may be seen at our office.

MAMMOTH SQUASHES.

The past summer has been one productive in mammoth squashes and huge pumpkins. At the late Cattle Show, we were struck with the great size and fair proportions of these products. Some very large ones were brought forward and exhibited at the show held in this town on the 14th ult. One raised by Mr. Stewart of Augusta, weighed we believe 100 pounds or upwards. Another raised by Wm. Noyes of this town of the Smyrna variety weighed 92 pounds. The seeds from which this grew were sent us by Mr. Wilber of Sidney. One raised by Capt. P. Benson of this town weighed 93; and one raised by Mr. J. Pettengill of Monmouth 76½. There were also some others exhibited but by whom we do not know.

We regret that by some mistake the incidental committee overlooked this part of the exhibition and did not report upon them. We think the trustees would be justified in awarding gratuities to some of them and hope they will do it.

Within a few years there has evidently been an improvement in this branch of Agriculture and our farmers not only plant more pumpkins and squashes but they raise larger and better ones than formerly. They are a valuable product on a farm for almost every kind of stock; indeed we believe there is no animal kept on the farm that will not eat and thrive upon them. They are also easily raised, requiring only a warm soil, and a plenty of manure. They are not very particular as to the quality and in fact we have often observed that the pumpkin does best on coarse green manure from the barn yard.

POUND PEARS.—Among other articles presented for exhibition, and we think worthy of a gratuity, were two pears weighing a pound each, raised and presented by Mr. Francis Wingate of Hallowell.

They were very fair and well formed. We believe that if more attention were paid to the raising of pears in this State they would do as well as in any part of New England.

FARMERS' RECORDS.

MR. HOLMES:—Let it be understood I began on my farm in the woods, with only a bushy out road, but little traveled, and only by a few settlers.

Records made of cutting down trees, chopping and piling logs, cannot be very entertaining to your subscribers.

I began first about half a century ago to keep a journal, and continued it for several weeks, and laid it by as a simple and foolish concern, but was sorry I had not continued it. The first day of January, 1800, I determined, as simple as it was, I would put down the weather, my out-goings and incomings, and go ahead, and from that time to the present I have made records every day—and it begins and reads thus:

Jan. 1, 1800. Pleasant. I drove my team to Mr. Samuel Gorham's (about eight miles.) 2. Pleasant. I drove my team home with a load of hay. 3. Cloudy. I drove my team to S. Gorham's with a load of plough timber. These are the plain and simple facts made at the time, forty years ago.

I pass to Jan. 6. Clear and very cold. 9 and 10. I helped with my team sled timber for the Grist and Oil mills at the village of this town—a solitary village then. 18. Rainy. 25, 26 and 27. Snow and blustering; the roads blocked up with snow. 29. Extreme cold. Feb. 12. Extreme cold—in the night a blustering snow storm. Salt \$1.34; wheat 1.67; rye 1.34; corn 83 cts.; oats 50 cts.; potatoes 34 cts. per bushel. W. I. rum \$1.25; Molasses 67 cts. per gal.; tea 62 1-2 cts. per lb. 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19—five fair days—fine weather for sledding and sleighing. 24. Foggy morning—clears off warm. A shower of rain, and a very bright rainbow just at night.

March 1. A very blustering snow storm. 6 and 7.

Very cold. 9, 10, and 11. Becomes warm, and south wind. 19. Sleighing becomes poor. 22. Very blustering line storm of snow. 25, 26, 27 and 28. Becomes good weather for making maple sugar.

April 2. Public Fast. Continues good weather for making maple sugar. 13. Foggy and showery. 14. Snow scarce in the fields. 18. Good weather for clearing burnt land. 25. The spring forward—began to sow rye; on the 28th, to sow wheat. May 12. The spring continues forward. The maple, beech and birch in full leaf. 14. The farmers are burning their fell trees for planting.

May 27. The first thunder shower. 28, 29 and 30. Becomes dry. June 3. More thunder showers. I wash my sheep—9, I shear them. 10, 11 and 12. Fair and very hot. 21. The drouth quite sharp. Corn \$1.25, rye \$1.50 per bushel. 24. A thunder shower. 25 and 26. Very hot and thunder showers. July 4, 5, 6 and 7. Fair and very hot. Much grass is ready for the scythe. New rum 79 cts. per gal.; sewing silk 6 1-4 cts. per skein; twist, 6 1-4 cts. per stick. 9 and 10. Showers with thunder. 12 and 13. Fair and warm. Cherries and raspberries ripe and plenty. 18. Pulled my flax. 21, 22, 23 and 24. Good hay weather. 25. Showery and very hot—fine weather for vegetables. 26 to the end of the month, fine weather to secure hay and grain. Much grain ready for the sickle. Vinegar 33 cents per gallon.

Aug. 4. Very rainy. 9. Very rainy all day, and the night following. 10 and 11. Bad weather for grain—and much is sprouted by the warm sun and rains in the fields. From the 12th to the 25th, fair and fine weather. 26 and 27. Very hot, and thunder showers. Sept. 9. Some frost in the morning. 12. Very hot. 13. Hot and showers. Some frost. Labor on a farm \$8.50 per month. 25. Frost kills potatoes, pumpkins, cucumber vines, &c.

Oct. 3. Cold and windy. Powder 56 cts. per lb. 4. A frost. 15. Very cold. 25. I pulled my English Turnips. Those that were sowed early in the season were more free of worms than those sowed at the usual time. Nov. 7. Some snow. Sole leather 20 cts. per lb. 15. Very cold and windy. Molasses 67 cts. per gallon; tea 50, pepper 60, allspice 34 cts. per pound. 24. Tolerable good sleighing. 27. Thanksgiving.

Dec. 2. Fair and pleasant. Sheep \$3 per pair. Live Shoats 4 cts. per lb. 12. Very rainy. Sleighing becomes poor. 21. Very rainy. The snow all gone, and the frost out of the ground. From the 21st to the 28th, good weather for ploughing, &c. 31. A storm of snow.—So ends an abstract of the first year of my records made in Turner by J. W.

Original.

PROFITS OF SWINE.

MR. HOLMES:—In No. 40 of the current volume of the Farmer, E. S. has made a calculation respecting the profits of raising swine. He mentions ten as the number of hogs that a farmer should keep, and pretty fairly estimates their profit, except that of the pigs. He just mentions that we all like a baked pig, &c.

But suppose that five of his ten swine are females; that each one of them has two litters of pigs a year—say eight at a litter, both litters worth 16 dollars—this is only a dollar apiece, and they are worth that at a month old to bake, as he says. Then, with a little extra fattening, the sow will weigh 300 lbs. E. S. should have said to his West Sidney friend more about the pigs.

If I was to have a piggery, I would keep nearly all sows, and a first rate boar. Females of all animals, man not excepted, mature sooner than males. If this is worth noticing, you will publish it, and oblige perhaps your valuable West Sidney Correspondent, and it may be E. S. also. S. W.

P. S.—I think it might be more profitable to keep them until two and a half years old, when they would weigh 400 lbs., besides having four litters of pigs, and their keeping need not cost much, as breeders never should be fat. Thus we have 32 dollars for the pigs, and 100 pounds on the weight of the sow, and the whole will bring one cent more per lb. in the market, making seven dollars per hundred instead of six.

Pigs,	\$32.00
Sow,	28.00
	\$60.00

Ten swine, at this rate, will amount to \$600.00.—And all this in two years and a half, besides the manure they make and help the farmer to make. Where is the farmer who cannot raise roots, barley, apples, corn, &c. enough to keep ten female swine two years and a half? If he can and will he is almost sure of six hundred dollars.

New Variety of Potato.—A new variety of potatoes raised from the seed, by Joseph Titcomb, Esq. of this town, are beginning to excite a considerable share of attention in this quarter, among the admirers of this delicious vegetable. We have experimented upon some six or seven bushels of the "Titcomb Potato" recently, and do not hesitate to pronounce them the most palatable variety, for the table, with which we are acquainted. Their only fault is a habit of getting

out of their skin during the process of boiling.—*Franklin Register.*

Original.

PHYSIOLOGY OF THE WHEAT PLANT IN CONNECTION WITH RUST.

MR. HOLMES:—In the 2d volume of the Maine Farmer at the 170th page, I laid down some of the laws which govern the development of green plants.—This was my starting point on the investigation of the causes of rust, and having found these laws correctly stated and of invaluable uses in the progress of my enquiries, I now refer to them. The first of these, is this, that all grain plants complete the growth of the leaves and stalks before the kernel can mature.—And not only must the growth of the leaves and stalks be completed, but the harder part of the stalk and leaves must attain a considerable degree of ripeness at the blossoming time. So absolute is this law, that if any derangement takes place in the economy of the plant by which the ripening of the stalk at the under joint is suspended, the formation of the seed proceeds with difficulty, and thus being much longer exposed to the agents producing rust, such stalks most generally become infected with that disease.

In order to understand the operation of this principle, or law, of vegetable life, it is necessary for us to understand another principle which governs in the development of the plant, and that is, the lower joint in a wheat plant seems to be the point where the most efficient powers of vitality centre. Hence then, when by any derangement of the economy of the plant taking place below this, by which a part or all of the roots are injured, the vital principle of the plant throws out new roots here, to supply the defect. And so it is above, by tillering. The effects, above referred to, may be produced by various causes. Below the surface the roots may be corroded by an excess of alkali and produce this effect. This however is seldom injurious to much extent. But the most common cause, and at the same time producing the most disastrous effects, is the acid fermentation. This, in excess, always produces disease, not merely predisposition to disease, but actual disease, and that too of the most destructive nature. I have actually seen two or three classes of roots succeeding each other as the first was destroyed by this fermentation, and new ones supplied by the vital principle at the lower joint. You see then this is not speculation, theory or guessing. I go upon the basis of facts which I can demonstrate to a mathematical certainty.

Wheat plants standing very thinly, though not actually diseased before blossoming, yet in consequence of the scope given the roots, will tiller and spread at the vital point, and thus protract the green state of the plant.

Perhaps it may now be asked, as it has been before; what influence can this protracted greenness in the plant, have in producing rust? One answer is enough to this inquiry. We all know a person may work with comparative safety a few hours, say two or three, in a damp vault when the protracted labor of twelve might produce fever or cholera. Rust can only take place at a certain point of maturity in the plant. If it passes this period in the shortest possible length of time it is seldom much infected with disease. Now suppose this shortest period to be ten days, and if by any of the above causes this period should be protracted, the danger would not increase in mere numerical ratio, but be better represented by the involution of numbers; and perhaps in a three or four fold proportion every day.

The next point of enquiry is, at what point of maturity is the plant susceptible of rust? I answer when the stalk and leaves have ceased growing. We all know if we cut the leaves of wheat plants while in full growth the injury is soon repaired; but beyond a certain point of maturity, this process cannot take place. This I take to be the precise period when the leaves are exposed to rust. If an injury now takes place in the leaves or stalk, the vital powers of the plant cannot heal them; and from this period all the corrosions in the stalks and leaves are exposed to the influence of the atmosphere.

Perhaps Farmers have generally thought but little on the consequences of such exposure; and to illustrate which I will introduce a quotation from Chaptal's Chemistry, page 239. Says he, "at the moment when the air, or any other external agent, deprives a vegetable of ever so small a portion of one of the elements which enter into its composition, the body becomes imperfect, the proportions between the principles are not what they ought to be." Now so long as nature has the power to heal injuries inflicted on the surfaces of the leaves and stalks, external agents can find but little access to the interior; but no sooner does this cease than the ten thousand injuries with which plants are inflicted every day, open access for these agents to the interior vessels of the plant.

But in the case of acid fermentation, these evils are connected with others of a more formidable nature. Hear Chaptal again; he says, "plants do not draw in indifferently, or in the same quantities, all substances which can be held in solution by water; they absorb, from preference, those which are the least viscid."

And he further admits that this power of preference is weakened by the "sickly or languishing condition of the plant;" see page 66 of his Chemistry. Now let us look at the condition of wheat plants under the effects of this fermentation. The roots as we have seen are rendered diseased, and of course have lost those powers of discrimination peculiar to healthy plants. Hence, the grain becomes corrupted and when the agents which produce rust appear, they all unite in giving the disease its most dreadful form of malignity. With respect to the immediate cause of rust, I can see but little room for controversy. I know the sentiment has been advanced, again and again, that it is owing to the powerful flow of sap, in warm, sultry weather, by which the sap vessels are burst. I shall listen no longer to this theory; for I do know, yes I know, for I have seen, and that repeatedly, rust take place under circumstances in which it was impossible it should be the production of the causes assigned. Was it not for these facts, I might readily believe a fermentation might possibly be procured in the sap vessels, in the case of the sap, being corrupted by the acid fermentation at the roots, to rupture the sap vessels. But since we should be obliged still to find a cause for rust in other cases in which this did not exist, and that cause when found would be equally applicable to all cases, I shall proceed to enquire what that cause may be.

If we look into the structure of plants as described by physiologists we shall find the sap vessels to be a vast multitude so minute as not to be distinguished by the unaided eye of man. From this fact, it seems to me there must be taught some cause sufficient to account for the concentration of the sap at particular points, and acting with such power or to break through the coat of the leaves or stalks of plants. This process it appears to me may be something like the process which sometimes takes place on the human skin in the equatorial regions by the agency of insects.—The skin is perforated in numerous places, and every puncture becomes a sore. That insects, are incessantly at work on all kinds of vegetation, is a fact which any person who scrutinizes closely cannot fail to demonstrate to his own satisfaction. For whatever purpose these may attack the leaves or stalks of plants, whether for food or to deposit their eggs it would be sufficient to open a passage for these external agents of which Chaptal speaks. More especially would moisture from without, concentrate in such spots and with the internal sap ferment—sometimes drying in the sunbeams and forming a crust—then again by the force of internal fermentation break forth like a sore on the human frame, and occasion those fissures we sometimes see from an eighth to a quarter of an inch in length. Now if we admit a force in the internal sap, however acquired, sufficient to effect such a purpose without any external aid; how much easier must the purpose be effected with it. Indeed if we pull a piece of skin or cloth until it tears, will not the rent always begin at the weakest point. Finally if we do not come to this conclusion, I can discover no cause sufficient to effect such an object and the proper enquiry is not yet begun. On the contrary, from the theory I have advanced, all the appearances of rust which I have ever seen may be satisfactorily accounted for and appear consistent and natural. The last and most interesting point of enquiry remains, and that relates to the remedy. And in answering this, many interesting suggestions have at different times been made. Some kinds of grain are less liable to this disease than others. Hence a choice of kinds becomes advisable. Early sowing, if it were not for the grain worm would be advisable. But to me it appears the grand point of failure is in the preparation and application of manure. It has been said, make your land moderately rich for wheat. I should say never use manure for wheat, which is susceptible of the excessive acid fermentation at all. Such is bone dust.—The blood and flesh of animals, mixed with any sand or loam that has not vegetable matter enough to produce acid in fermentation. Some compost formed of mud and such like materials, with lime enough in it to be sure to prevent any acid fermentation. A compost may be formed of fresh caught fish of any kind on the same principles of that made with the blood and flesh of animals. Let these manures be applied to land equally clear of such vegetable matter as will produce acid in the fermentation, and you will have a fair experiment. I know these manures have all been long celebrated for their efficacy in raising wheat, but I am very doubtful whether a train of well conducted experiments have ever been made by adhering to the principles I have here laid down. My wish is to have experiments made particularly with respect to the wheat culture. Persons living near the seaboard might easily procure fresh fish enough to make an experiment on a few rods annually. Farmers in the interior may appropriate the carcass of some dead animal every year for the same purpose, rejecting the entrails or else adding lime enough to prevent the acid fermentation. But the main difficulty will be usually found in selecting a suitable spot for the experiment; not but suitable spots may be found on almost any farm, but the difficulty is to find such a spot in a convenient place.

The fact is, that the raising of wheat is almost a

distinct branch in the science of farming, and ought to be pursued as such; and when our brethren of the pitchfork take hold of it in good earnest and bend all the energies of body and mind to it, we shall see the effects of it operating like enchantment all around.

Peru, Oct., 1840.

J. H. J.

P. S. With respect to smut in wheat, I will say that for several years I have used no other remedy than simple but thorough washing, and using soap in the water. This has answered every purpose thus far. Query, will simple washing destroy the vitality of weak seeds which is a favorite idea with some, in the use of vitriol as the efficient cause why vitriol destroys smut.

PRACTICAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AGRICULTURE.

Sir,—One of the most important subjects for the attention of the practical agriculturist is the nature of manures, the manner in which they act, and the best mode of their application. It has long been known that certain substances blended with the soil have the effect of accelerating the growth of vegetables and increasing the crop: but the manner of bringing them into action, and of adapting them to the nature of the soil to be improved, has long been a subject of discussion. Chemistry, and more particularly that branch of it which shows the nature and composition of soils, will assist in this research, inasmuch as it should be the study of the farmer to correct the defects and supply the deficiencies of the land on which his efforts are to be applied.

Plants, not possessing the powers of locomotion, can only thrive in those spots which contain the juices necessary for their support, and as the organs through which they derive what may be called their food, are extremely small, it follows that every matter to be introduced into them must be in a state of solution. Fermentation is not necessary to prepare the food of plants, although solutions intended to nourish them must not be too concentrated, or the vegetable organs will become clogged, and the transpiration by the leaves prevented. The great object in the application of manure should therefore be to afford as much soluble matter as possible to the roots of the plant so gradually as to ensure its being taken up and consumed in forming its sap and solid parts. All vegetable manures contain a large quantity of fibrous and insoluble matter, which must undergo certain chemical changes before they can be made thus available. Animal matters decompose more readily, and are sooner prepared for use. The principal substances, either constituting the bodies of animals, or found in their blood or excrements, are gelatine fibrine, mucus, fatty or oily matter, albumen, urea, uric acid, saline, and earthy matters. All these substances may be used for manure, and require more or less preparation according as they are more or less soluble in water; those that are easily dissolved should not be exposed to fermentation or putrefaction, and those processes are only useful when the manure consists principally of animal or vegetable fibre. Gelatine, when combined with water, becomes jelly, and is easily soluble. Fibrine is not soluble in water, but by the action of acids it becomes analogous to gelatine; putrefaction, with heat and exposure to the air, will reduce it from a solid to a liquid, and a considerable quantity of ammonia and carbonic acid is formed. Mucus is easily soluble in water. Animal fat and oils and albumen are also soluble. Urea is very much so, and readily undergoes putrefaction. Uric acid consists of carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, and azote, and is least liable to undergo the process of fermentation. According to the different proportions of these principles in animal substances, the changes they undergo are different—the progress of their decomposition is less rapid when mixed with saline or earthy matter than when they are principally composed of fibrine, albumen, gelatine, or urea. Ammonia is given off by animal compounds during their putrefaction, and is formed by hydrogen and azote; the other products are similar to those afforded by the fermentation of vegetable substances, and the soluble substances formed abound in carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen, which may be called the constituent parts of vegetables.

The fertilising power of all these substances when properly applied is very great, but it often happens that they are wasted by being allowed to remain exposed to the air, till they are either destroyed by birds of prey or decomposed. Their use, indeed, is not common except in certain cases, which I shall afterwards point out.

I am, sir, your's very obediently,

A YEOMAN OF KENT.

The Cincinnati Gazette records the fact of the production of a quince in that vicinity, measuring 13 1-4 inches in circumference, and weighing 16 1-2 ounces! The Pawtucket Chronicle chronicles the fact of the

production of a quince on the grounds of J. T. Fales, measuring 14 1-2 inches in circumference, and weighing one pound seven ounces!

Marrying a lady for her beauty, is like eating a bird for its singing.

CLEANINGS

IN THE ARTS AND PRACTICAL SCIENCES.

Philosophical Facts. Sound travels 1132 feet in one second, or 13 miles in a minute. The softest whisper flies as fast as the loudest thunder; and no sound produced by artificial means can be heard over 200 miles. In the war between England and Holland, in 1672, the guns were heard in those parts of Wales judged to be nearly 200 miles distant from the scene of action; but sounds arising from volcanoes have been heard at a much greater distance.

Light goes about 13,000,000 of miles in one minute. A strong wind flies 20 feet in a second. If the distance between us and a cannon when fired be one mile, we hear the report 24 seconds after we see the flash. The nearest of the fixed stars is 5000 times more distant from us than the sun: its distance, then must be 77,400,000,000 miles. Were a cannon fired from a star, it would require 5,400,000 years for the report to reach us. The hardest metals on which common fires, and even glass-house, furnaces, could produce no effect, have been melted in a few seconds by means of lenses or mirrors called burning glasses. M. Villet, a native of France, about 100 years since constructed a mirror 3 feet 11 inches in diameter, and 3 feet 2 inches focal distance, which was so powerful that it melted copper ore in 8 seconds, and iron ore 24 seconds, a fish's tooth in 32 seconds, cast iron in 16 seconds, a silver sixpence in 7 seconds, and tin in 3 seconds. M. Villet's mirror condensed the rays of the sun 17,257 times, a degree of heat which is about 190 times greater than common fire.

Mr Parker, of London, constructed a lens 3 feet in diameter, focus 6 feet 8 inches weighing 212 pounds. It melted 20 grains of gold in 4 seconds, and 10 grains of platina in 3 seconds. The broader the lens and shorter the focal distance, the more intense is the heat produced by such instruments. A globular decanter of water is a powerful burning glass, and furniture of houses has taken fire by incautiously leaving it exposed to the sun's rays.—*Lyneus.*

Economy in Manufacture Illustrated.—Among the causes which tend to the cheap production of any article, and which require additional capital, may be mentioned the care which is taken to allow no part of the raw produce, out of which it is formed, to be absolutely wasted. An attention to this circumstance sometimes causes the union of two trades in one factory, which otherwise would naturally have been separated. An enumeration of the arts to which the horns of cattle are applicable furnishes a striking instance of this kind of economy. The tanner who has purchased the hide separates the horns, and sells them to the maker of combs and lanterns. The horn consists of two parts, an outward horny case, and an inward conical shaped substance, somewhat intermediate between indurated hair and bone. The first process consists in separating these two parts, by means of a blow against a block of wood. The horny exterior is then cut into three portions by means of a frame saw.

1. The lowest of these, next to the root of the hair, after undergoing several processes, by which it is rendered flat, is made into combs.

2. The middle of the horn, after being flattened by heat, and its transparency improved by oil, is split into thin layers, and forms a substitute for glass in lanterns of the commonest kind.

3. The tip of the horn is used by the makers of knife handles, and of the tops of whips, and for other similar purposes.

4. The interior, or core of the horn, is boiled down in water. A large quantity of fat rises to the surface; this is put aside, and sold to the makers of yellow soap.

5. The liquid itself is used as a kind of glue, and is purchased by the cloth dressers for stiffening.

6. The bony substance, which remains behind, is then sent to the mill, and, being ground down, is sold to the farmers for manure.

Besides these various purposes to which the different parts of the horn are applied, the clippings which arise in comb making are sold to the farmer for manure, at about one shilling a bushel. In the first year after they are spread over the soil they have comparatively little effect, but during the next four or five, their efficiency is considerable. The shavings which form the refuse of the lantern maker are of a much thinner texture: a few of them are cut into various

figures and painted, and used as toys; for being hygrometric, they crawl up when placed in the palm of a warm hand. But the greater part of these shavings are also sold for manure, which, from their extremely thin and divided form, produce its full effect upon the first crop.—*Babbage's Economy of Machinery.*

Miscellaneous Receipts.

A BRILLIANT STUCCO WHITEWASH.

Many have probably often heard of the brilliant and lasting whitewash upon the East end of the President's House at Washington city. The following is a correct recipe for making it:—

[RECIPE.]

Take clean lumps of well burnt lime, (say five or six quarts,) slack the same with hot water in a tub, (covered, to keep in the steam,) pass it in the fluid form through a fine sieve; add one-fourth of a pound of whiting or burnt alum, pulverized; one pound of good sugar; three pints of rice flour, made into a thin paste, and one pound of clean glue, dissolved by first soaking it well, and then putting it into a small kettle which should again be put into a larger one filled with water, and placed over a slow fire. Add five gallons of hot water to the whole mixture.

This wash is applied, where particular neatness is required, with a painter's brush. It must be put on while warm if upon the outside of the building—if within doors, cold. It will retain its brilliancy for many years. There is nothing of the kind that will compare with it. About one pint of the mixture will cover a square yard upon the outside of a house, if properly applied. If a larger quantity than five gallons is wanted, the same proportions must be observed in preparing. Coloring matter may be added to give it any required shade.

Will some try it, and communicate the result?—*Genesee Farmer.*

An Economical Substitute for Copying Machines.—In the common ink used for writing dissolve with it one drachm of loaf sugar to each ounce of ink, moisten a sheet of unsized paper to copy with, and put it between two sheets of the same paper to absorb the superfluous moisture; then put the moistened paper on the writing, when by passing a ruler once or twice over its surface, you will have a perfect fac-simile struck through the copy paper, without injuring the original in the least.—*Daily Adv.*

LEGAL.

Important Legal Decision.—The Assistant Vice Chancellor of N. Y. pronounced a decision of great importance to judgement creditors and to the legal profession. He has determined, that where a bill is filed for a discovery, and the litigation is wholly unsuccessful, the costs of the defendant, which have hitherto been deemed as belonging to the solicitor of the defendant, and decreed to be paid by the complainant in cash, are the subject of set off, and that all the complainant can be compelled to do in such case is to credit the amount of such costs upon his judgment.

Caution to Stagemen.—In the Essex, N. J. Circuit, last week, was tried a suit brought by John Chapman against A. M. Cummings, for damages sustained by the plaintiff in the oversetting of the defendant's stage about three years ago. The defendant run a line of stages from the New Jersey Railroad before its completion to Philadelphia. The defendant with several other passengers, were in the stage, (which carried the mail,) on Sunday, and turning a corner in Philadelphia, the stage was upset and the plaintiff slightly injured. There was some contradictory testimony, particularly in relation to the rapidity of the travelling, and as to the fact of the plaintiff having frequently treated the driver on the road. Judge Ford charged the Jury that if they believed from the evidence *the plaintiff gave intoxicating drink to the driver*, so that he became excited thereby, which occasioned the careless driving and caused the accident, he must take the consequences of improper conduct. The Jury, under the circumstances, gave a verdict for plaintiff of \$50.—*American Traveller.*

Costly Bath.—Moses Bragden, an assistant of Dr. Hewitt, has been prosecuted before the Common Pleas Court, for injuring Cushing Vinal, of Scituate, by mixing in a medical bath, a large quantity of cayenne pepper, which caused violent pain, smarting, and burning upon the body of the patient, violent distortion of his flesh, inflammation and painful contraction of his muscles, and which so affected him, in the then debilitated state of his body, and in particular of his nervous system, as greatly to endanger his life.

The defence was that Bragden took this course to get Vinal out of the house, to accommodate some lady patient. The Jury rendered a verdict of \$250 damages against Bragden.—*Id.*



AGRICULTURAL.

ROTATION OF CROPS.

MR. EDITOR.—In your very valuable paper, "The Farmers' Cabinet," I have found contained much valuable information on the subject of agriculture, from the application of which, in many instances, I have realized immense benefit. One question, however, of paramount interest to farmers, still remains unsettled, and that is, to *what system of rotation of crops should be adopted*, with a view to immediate profits, and the continual improvement of the soil. I have carefully remarked many experiments, which have been made in my own neighbourhood, in this particular branch of husbandry, and, among the many instances of failure, there has been one of success, which it is my present purpose to communicate, for the benefit of such as may see proper to improve the hint. The example to which I refer is that of an old, practical, hard-working farmer, who commenced in the world as a day-laborer, and who is now worth, at least, one hundred thousand dollars, not taking into the account many heavy pecuniary losses he has, at various times, sustained. This man, when thirty years of age, by the avails of his industry, added to a small legacy, was enabled to purchase and pay, in part, for a farm of one hundred and thirty acres of land, one hundred of which was under cultivation, but in a very low state. This farm is altogether upland with a soil composed of lime, clay and sand, in chief of which the latter preponderates, the former being least considerable. When he commenced farming, he adopted a particular system of rotation, to which he has implicitly adhered from that time to the present, which is forty years, and his success is the best comment in the worth of his experiment. His mode was as follows: having divided his farm into eight fields of equal size, as nearly as possible, three of those fields are sowed with wheat each year, one with rye, one planted with corn, two in clover, and one an open fallow, on which corn had been raised the year previous. One of the two clover-fields is kept for mowing, the other for pasture, both of which are ploughed as soon after harvest as possible and prepared for wheat in the fall. All the manure which is made on the farm for one year is hauled, in the spring, on the field intended for open fallow, which is then ploughed, and after one or two cross-ploughings through the summer, is also sowed with wheat in the fall. The field on which rye is sown, is that from which a crop of wheat had been taken the same year, and which had yielded three crops. Corn is planted on the field from which rye had been gathered the year previous, the stubbles of which are ploughed down in the fall. Clover-seed is sown early in the spring on two of the wheat-fields, those which have been most recently manured. By this method, each field yields three crops of wheat, two of clover, one of rye and one of corn, every eight years. Each field, in the meantime, has lain an open fallow, and received a heavy dressing of manure, perhaps at an average of fifteen four-horse loads per acre. His crop of wheat is seldom less than fifteen hundred bushels, but often much more. His average rye-crop is about four hundred and fifty bushels, and his corn-crop, annually, about five hundred bushels—all which grain, at the present low prices, would amount to more than TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS ANNUALLY—and at former prices to double that amount—and his farm is withal very highly improved.

Yours,

P. W.

THE CUT-WORM.

SIR,—How almost universal is the notion that the cut-worm feeds upon the grass which is turned down on the sod late in the spring, as a seed-bed for the corn-crop! Now, I believe he is a very different disposition, and not likely to prefer old sod to new corn; for, if this were so, our friends—even those who are accustomed to delay their ploughing for the purpose of thus feeding them—would not so often be compelled to re-plant, for the third time, their corn-crops, while such abundance of sod still remains in the land, preserved, too, for the especial purpose of saving the crop from destruction: depend upon it, such is not the fact, and I have abundant reason to know that the notion is erroneous.

I am an advocate for autumnal ploughing to the greatest extent, especially as preparatory for the corn-crop on lay, or old sod land, and I will tell you why. This lay, we will suppose, has been fed with horses and cattle, perhaps for several years; and we know that it is from the droppings of cattle that the bugs of every description make their nests, in which to deposit their eggs or nits; and every one must have observed the curious manner in which the different species carry on this labour, and how, that as soon as they have accumulated a sufficient quantity of dung to form a ball, they sink it to a certain depth into the soil, by *undermining* it, so as to let it drop by its own weight so gently as not to disturb or change the position in which it was carefully placed before the operation of undermining was commenced. Now, I have no doubt, this ball of dung has, by some process, been rendered water and weather-proof on its top surface, and that, therefore, it is capable of resisting the rain and frost of the winter unharmed, sheltered by such a weather-proof, neatly-formed, and elegantly-rounded roofing above. But the act of turning the sod before winter, reverses the order of this wise arrangement, and not only exposes these balls to the action of the rains and frosts, but *supposing* the top of each ball to be water-proof, it then becomes an imprevius cup, in which the water might be supposed to be retained, to the destruction of the egg, or whatever the deposit might have been.

Now this *theory* if you please, appears so feasible, that one would suppose it might carry some weight with it, on that very account, and yet an old neighbor at my elbow is even now exclaiming, "I tell you I have tried it, and it will not do any how you can fix it; it is all *theory*, and that you may depend upon." But I tell him I have found that it *will do*, if the work be properly done; but all the land must be turned up, for if half of it be left unremoved, it is but reasonable to expect that at least one-half the number of nests will furnish myriads of cut-worms to prey upon the corn-crop. And my old friend admits that he has not been over-particular in his ploughing, considering it, at that season of the year, only a piece of sham-work, as he calls it, with the furrow-slice about eighteen inches wide, and not always ploughed clean or turned over—a sort of raftering, as he terms it—so that, from his own account, it is easy to conceive why he has not found autumnal ploughing effectual for the purpose of destroying the cut-worm. I am particularly nice about this part of the business, for, after ascertaining the depth to which it is necessary to penetrate, to turn up the dung-balls, I am careful to set the plough thereto, and then, by not taking a furrow wider than I can turn well over, and determining not to leave an inch of the land unremoved, I am sure to succeed in my plan of destroying the eggs of the cut-worm, which is far better than to keep them to feed in for spring upon the sod turned down for their benefit; then I say, as did your correspondent, at page 376 of the 4th vol. of the Cabinet, "I could not bear to turn cut-worm feeder."

But, what would we say to a gardener who should argue against autumnal cultivation, with the view to supply his vermin with plenty of food in the spring? Farming is *gardening* in all true principles; and it is a fact, that spade-labor in the field would relieve us from nine-tenths of the evils that we have at present to encounter, as is well known in those countries where, *unfortunately*, the price of manual labor is so poorly paid as to warrant its adoption. I know, that to many it appears almost paradoxical, how we, in this country and climate, with a set of agricultural implements far superior to those in use in any country under the sun, *contrive* to do so much of our field-labor so ineffectually as we do; and were it not for the notion I have taken up—and which I have reason to believe is just, namely, that all our occupations are performed too hastily—I should myself be quite unable to account for it; and here is the proof—my old friend at my elbow is at this moment boasting of having ploughed two acres and a half a day, "ploughing round and round, with a furrow about a foot and a half wide, with a pair of horses, tickling up their tails" as he expresses it, "in a way 't would do you good to look at." Depend upon it, this is the cause; but if we would give our lands *three-times* the ploughing and *four-times* the harrowing, rolling and cleaning, that they now receive, and all applied with *five-times* the care, we should find the benefit resulting therefrom to be *ten-times* the value at harvest, as well as our future operation.

Now, I know of no one who takes more pains in the after-cultivation of his corn than my ancient friend abovementioned; he is sure to be the first in all its different workings and counterworkings, its cross-ploughings and cross-hoeings, and it is a "savour of a sweet smell," when his neighbors assure him there is no crop in the country that can compare with his; and

yet, strange to say, all his other labors are neglected; his other crops are grown over with weeds, which stare at you over the fence as you walk along, and it is in vain to look for his hills of potatoes until the weeds are mown off with the scythe; for he has found that no crop, except corn, will pay for the labor of cleaning! But the fact is, the management of his corn-crop has grown into a *propensity*, as Frank says in the dialogues, and that he must indulge in, even if it be to the neglect of almost every other duty upon the farm; and to give him time for this, all other operations are hurried and only half performed: indeed, wherever the corn has failed in a hill, you will always see its place occupied by some large weed, which about keeps pace in growth with the corn, having received with it the regular cleaning and cultivation with the hoe-harrow; but it is not removed, because there is no time for it! And the weeds around the sides of the said corn are, in the meantime, permitted to grow and flourish and perfect and shed their seeds unmolested, because there is no time for their eradication, no not even with the scythe! I often think, while walking over his fields with my old friend, if I were his minister, I would now and then give him a *touch* from the words, "these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone."

No one can tell the advantage of superior cultivation of the soil, and the benefit to the crop from the total eradication of weeds! The crop is increased thereby, not only in quantity but in quality also. It has been calculated that a strong weed, growing in a crop of wheat, will draw away a great portion of the nourishment from six plants of the wheat! thus rendering the produce inferior, both in the quality and quantity—a matter of the most serious importance. And Col. Smith has shown by an account, published in the Germantown Telegraph of the 12th of August, that merely by the power of superior cultivation, he has this year obtained a crop of most excellent hay, amounting to more than two tons per acre, from land that has had no manure for the last nine years! He states as follows: he has a field belonging to his farm which has not been manured for *nine* years, and yet it yields, the present season, more than two tons of superior hay per acre. The first six years of the nine it was in grass; then corn, then oats, and then grass, again. He attributed this unusual success, on a soil only ordinarily good, to the high degree of tillage which it received, and the entire annihilation of weeds.

The lesson to be learnt from this is, one-half the quantity of manure might be saved by superior tillage and the eradication of one-half the crop—the *weeds*—that being about the proportion to the grain, throughout a great part of the country. But is it a fact, that agriculture will not pay for good management? Then the cultivation of the soil is the *only science* that will not pay a premium upon the outlay of skill and capital that may be embarked therein.

But this is the season to plough for the destruction of the cut-worm, and, if we would set honestly to the task, there is no doubt it would be accomplished: lands ploughed deep and laid up dry for the winter will be benefited to the extent of a dressing of manure, and can be cultivated much earlier and to greater advantage in the spring: in short, *autumnal ploughing is the soul of good husbandry—Farmer's Cabinet.*

MR. COLMAN'S THIRD REPORT.

We have had the pleasure of examining the report of the Agricultural Commissioner for the past year; and are happy to bear our testimony to the ability and zeal with which his arduous duties are performed, and the beneficial effects his labors are calculated to produce. Mr Colman's first report related to the agriculture of some of the eastern counties of Massachusetts; the second report was devoted to the survey of the county of Berkshire; and the present is occupied with the great subjects of wheat and silk.

The legislature of Massachusetts in 1838, offered a bounty on wheat, and the present report illustrates the effect of that law, by showing the number of claimants the acres sown, and the amount of wheat produced. The number of claimants was 3,642; acres sown, nearly 7,000; bushels produced, 108,570; and the average not far from 15 bushels per acre. We acknowledge this result is rather unexpected to us, having heard so much of the incapacity of the New England States to grow wheat; for we much question whether the *spring wheat* crop of any considerable part of New York will average more than the one stated.

The returns from the several towns are very full, and embrace much valuable matter, which has been skilfully condensed in the report. From an examination of the returns, it appears that much injury was done by the grain insect or worm: that there was much smut; some blight from causes unknown; and much suffering of the crop from drought. "It appears

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also from the returns, that there is hardly an instance named in which lime or plaster has given any decisive and well-authenticated favorable results. Wood ashes have been frequently used, and large crops have followed."—Ashes, however sometimes failed.

Mr Colman enters into an extended argument to show that Massachusetts would find her account in producing her bread from her own soil; and his reasonings are in our opinion conclusive. No people can permanently prosper who depend on others for their bread. Every other kind of business must fluctuate; and while some individuals or states grow speedily rich from manufactures or commerce, the tiller of the soil, he who grows his own bread, is alone independent. Mr Colman has most truly said, that "agriculture in the view of every political economist, is the foundation of national wealth." All other means are only accessories.

The report enters largely upon the cultivation of wheat; its diseases, varieties, methods of improvement, and the best mode of culture. The causes of failure he arranged under the head of rust, smut, mildew, and insects. On all these topics his observations are worthy of being studied by every wheat grower, as embracing much condensed information, which will be every where useful. The grain worm is doubtless the most formidable enemy the eastern wheat grower has to encounter, and on this subject Mr Colman recommends most strenuously the use of newly slaked lime, dusted thoroughly over the grain just as it is coming into flower. A single application has proved successful, while in others repetition was necessary. Mr C. announced this preventive some years since, in the N. Y. Farmer, but the results of some experiments made by farmers in the valley of the Hudson, did not seem to justify the opinions entertained of its efficacy; the difficulty might, however, lie in the lime, or the period of its application; and it is well worthy of trial wherever the worm makes its appearance in the wheat crop. There are two kinds of worms which feed on wheat in the ear; one which has been known for a long time in western New York, and has sometimes produced some injury, though little, when compared with the ravages of the other species in other parts of the country. The other is the worm of New England and the Hudson valley, which, there is great reason to hope, has passed the period of its greatest ravages, as it has been less numerous and destructive to the wheat crops for the last two years, than for several years previous.

On the subject of ploughing in clover for wheat, Mr Colman has the following remarks: "I have always been inclined to the belief which generally prevails, and which Mr Phinney maintains, that the higher the state of luxuriance in which vegetable matter was turned in by the plough the more the land will be enriched by it. But the experience of one of the best farmers in the State has satisfied me, especially as it has been confirmed by another equally intelligent farmer, and wholly unbiassed by the judgment of any other person, that the land is more benefitted by the turning in of the clover crop after it is dried, than when in a state of greenness and full of sap. The opinion is, that if green, it creates an acidity in the soil, prejudicial to the succeeding crop."

In support of the opinion here expressed by Mr. Colman, we may adduce that of the most successful wheat growers in the western counties, whose crop is usually from 1000 to 1500 bushels. He assured us several years since, that he had done turning in clover when in full vigor for wheat, as from his experience he knew that it "soured the soil," and that it would not recover from such a dressing under three or four years. Still clover was the main stay of his wheat husbandry; but instead of turning it in, he fed or trampled it down upon the land, by cattle or sheep, he preferring the latter, and keeping some three or four hundred for that purpose. His lands are broken up in the fore part of the summer, before a great growth of clover is attained; wheat is sown in the fall and clover seed in the spring. The wheat is plastered and so the clover in the next year; his course embracing four years. Large quantities of clover decay on the ground, and this, mixed with the manure of the animals, and the mass of clover roots at the time of fallowing, gives a progressive improvement to his soil and his crops, which certainly speaks well in favor of the system.

It appears from that part of the report relating to manures for wheat, that lime has been of little or no value when used, and that crops of wheat of about 30 bushels per acre, have been grown on soils in which not a trace of carbonate of lime existed. There was a small quantity of phosphate of lime, however, present, one and a half per cent. and this could not have been without its influence. It is surprising to witness the discrepancy between the results from the use of lime in Massachusetts, as given in the report, and

those produced by the same article in some of the middle States. The reason of this want of efficiency in the northern soils, does not appear to be satisfactorily ascertained; but the subject is one of such consequence, as to demand the most rigid investigation. We are inclined to the opinion, that where the other matters in the soil are right, a very small quantity of lime is sufficient for all the purposes of vegetation; but as lime appears to be an essential part of the wheat and clover plants, it seems clear, that more or less of it is indispensable to their growth, and the perfection of their seeds. The Berkshire marls have not produced the effect expected from them by some; but, if made into compost in mixture with peat, vegetable mould, or animal manures, we doubt not the value of all would be greatly enhanced. Mr Colman's remarks on cleanness of cultivation, and recent agricultural improvements, are very just; but we have room here only to refer to them, and must pass to the second part of the report—that which relates to silk.

The report of Mr Colman on this subject one which we consider of vast importance to the nation, is without question the most valuable documents yet given to the American public on this topic, and should be in the hands of every one who proposes to enter on the production of silk. His opinions and facts are advanced with fearlessness and discrimination, and the amount of information he has collected and condensed in the report, is truly great. On the subject of the mulberry, the kind of worm, the different methods of feeding, the cost of production and manufacture, are all well treated, as well as many other incidental topics connected with these. The report is not intended as a manual for the producer or the manufacturer, but as a general guide to the inquirer; and in this respect will be found unrivalled.

In determining the question of the capability of this country to produce silk, Mr Colman very justly distinguishes between the mulberry speculation and the growth of trees for silk only. To whatever cause we may attribute the mulberry fever of 1838 and 1839 whether, with Mr C. to a conspiracy among a few individuals to defraud the public in this way, or to an ignorance of the results certain to ensue from excessive multiplication, or whether we consider it as only one of the many modes in which the mania which infected the whole nation in those years developed itself, it now matters not; the bubble has burst, and thousands of the mulberry speculators, as well as those in western lands, corner lots, and lithographic cities, have been ruined.

The conclusion to which Mr Colman arrives, after a survey of the whole ground, and we think it a correct one, is, that we can, and should, make our own silks. After disregarding all the extravagant calculations that have been made, after rigorously making every necessary deduction for the expenses of production, it appears that silk culture offers as handsome a remuneration for labor as any of the agricultural pursuits of this country, and in its prosecution embraces the labor of individuals that could be of little service in other pursuits. The production of silk by companies has proved a failure in this country, so far; and it appears very certain that the business if it succeeds, must be prosecuted as a branch of domestic industry. The manufacture of the material when once produced is another matter. The production of the raw material introduced as a collateral branch of industry, not as a principal one must prove a source of eminent comfort and wealth. There is clearly nothing mysterious in the business; all is simple and easily understood and practiced, by any one that chooses to bring to it the necessary attention and skill. We fully concur in the opinions expressed in the following extract from the report:—"I take pleasure in recommending the culture of silk to my respected friends the Shakers. They have every element of success; intelligence, skill, exactness, perseverance, abundance of labor, land enough, and buildings already prepared for their operations. They, if any among us, would be the fittest persons to undertake the artificial method of M. Beauvais. Their female aid is of the best description for this culture. They may pursue it to any desirable extent; and I cannot have a doubt, if they should undertake it with their usual care and determination, their enterprise would be crowned with success."

We should be pleased to extract largely from these reports, and shall have occasion often to refer to them as a magazine of facts collected with great skill and particularly valuable as illustrating all subjects connected with the matters to which they are devoted. —*Albany Cultivator.*

We tender to Dr Darby our thanks for the following abstracts. We will at any time thankfully receive any similar communication from Dr. D. or other gentlemen of his profession, which his reason or experience

may suggest. We do not pretend to claim it as a right, but, at the same time, we must say, there seems to us some obligation on gentlemen of the profession of medicine, in the absence of professed veterinarians, to bestow portion of their skill in preventing the great losses which often occur from disease among live stock. The most inhuman treatment is sometimes practised as a remedy, the cruelty and fallacy of which, a few words from an intelligent physician would suffice to point out.

PURGATIVES AND DIURETICS,

As used in sickness and disease of Horses.

MR. BROWN:—Having recently read a work on the Diseases, &c. of Horses, by DELABERE BLAINE, a teacher of the veterinary arts in England, in which there is a vast amount of useful matter, I have, for the benefit and instruction of the owners of horses, and with a view of promoting the health and relieving the sufferings of that highly useful animal, concluded to send you the following extracts from the book for publication. I shall confine myself to the use of purgatives and diuretics, as being the more frequent in their application and the more readily understood.

"OF PURGATIVES.—Certain peculiarities of constitution generally and certain states of the alimentary canal particularly render this process very salutary to the horse: they are indeed essentially necessary to keep him up to that artificial standard which luxury and refinement have taught us to expect in him. The uses of purging medicines are—such as are given remedially against an existing disease; those exhibited as a preventative against a probable one; lastly, they are very generally in use for promoting a certain state called condition.

Remedially.—Catharsis is most beneficially employed against inflammation, or most diseases of increased action, except or the alimentary tract. In active inflammation it greatly assists bleeding, and in some cases it is superior to it, and can be advantageously employed, when bleeding cannot with propriety be attempted, as in fevers possessing a low or putrid character. In the plethoric states, which produce serious deposits in the legs, &c. as in horses just removed from grass, &c. &c., we depend on purgatives for their removal. In pursive thick-winded horses, physic not only prevents further accumulation, but also stimulates the absorbents to take up some of the existing deposit. In dyspeptic cases, in hidebound, in lampas, or other affections arising from deranged functions of the stomach, mild purgatives act in the most salutary manner.

As preventives, purges are extensively employed also, when horses are taken from grass or straw yard, and are at once removed into a heated temperature, with clothing and full diet. Bleeding is also here a preventive of disease. When an emaciated horse is removed from hard work and harder fare, at once to rest and a full diet, so far from his condition being improved, unless he is prepared for the change by previous purging, his skin will become fixed, his belly more and more tucked up, and his hair will often actually fall off. But the same change, when accomplished by a judicious use of purgatives, operates as much to his advantage, that a few weeks brings fourth a new animal as it were.

To promote condition.—Luxury and refinement have introduced an artificial state of condition, beyond that simply implying a healthy functional state. Such condition is not only necessary to bring the animal up to our present ideas of beauty, but also to undergo exercises which, in a state of nature, were not expected of him, as hunting, racing, &c. &c. To promote this state, purges are indispensably necessary. By their means the watery parts of the blood are removed, by which the absorbents become stimulated to take up all the interstitial fluid interposed between the moving masses, as well as that distributed within the cellular membrane; by which means both the strength is augmented, and the weight of useless matter diminished. Physic draws up the belly and hardens the flesh. The lungs are also enabled to act more advantageously by the agency of physic. Their capacity being greatly increased by the absorption of incubering matter.

The abuse and danger of purgatives.—In all inflammatory affections of the stomach and bowels, cathartics are highly injurious, except in enteritis, (inflammation of the intestines, or red colic,) when the obstruction cannot be by other means. (In which case I will, here remark, Dr. Blaine depends upon prompt and copious bleeding, back raking, to remove impacted feces, large laxative clysters, fomentations and blisters to the belly; and as a purgative, castor and linseed oils, six or eight ounces of each, with gruel; or otherwise and of six or eight ounces Epsom salts, dissolved in two pints water.) Purgatives are also equally hurtful in inflammations of the lungs; and it

is probable, from the powers it calls forth in the horse to produce purging, occasioned by his structural peculiarities, that in all great vicerebral inflammations active purges should be administered with caution. In farcy and glanders purges seldom do else than harm; and in chronic affections attended with great debility they are rarely admissible. Physic is hurtful however, principally, from the frequency and quantity sometimes given.

Super-purgation has destroyed hundreds of horses and it has irreparably injured thousands: it certainly debilitates the horse more than man. It is hardly possible to conceive a more deplorable object than a horse under the action of an enormous purgative. The number and strength of the purgatives doses are not the only evils to which the horse is liable, from purgation; the articles used are likewise often of an injurious nature. Neither are grooms so attentive to previous preparations as they should be. No horse should have a strong dose of physic put into him without two or three days previous mashing; and if this be done, a mild dose will be sufficient. In hot weather inflammation supervenes or physic when at all too active; and dysentery is a very common consequence of summer purging. Cold water given at these times will injure; so will also exposure to cold air and changes of temperature. The intestines should always be prepared for this operation by bran mashes, which should be given two or three days previously, nor indeed should the physic be ever administered until the stools present some appearance of softening. The first dose given to every horse with which we are not well acquainted, should be a very mild one, for some horses are much more easily purged than others. Exercise is of particular importance in physic; but I would earnestly caution the attendants against actively trotting or galloping; brisk and continued walking is all that ought to be allowed. The importance of exercise is by no means sufficiently considered; half the quantity of any cathartic, with plenty of walking exercise will operate nearly as much as double the dose without it; so that the degree of purging may be always regulated nearly to our wish, which is a very desirable circumstance.

When physic does not work kindly, the exercise should be repeated at intervals of two hours, till it does; and then it should be altogether omitted as it would fatigue. Cold water should never be allowed, but if the horse will not drink it warm, it may be given cool, but never cold.

On this particular it is also necessary to observe that ample dilution is of the utmost consequence to insure physic working kindly. Entice the horse therefore to drink by every means, and by no means forget the necessary precaution of giving him pure water, from a perfectly clean pail. During the working of the physic he should be kept warm, both by stable temperature and by clothing, and he must be exercised (if in winter) in clothes proportioned to the cold.

—Kentucky Farmer.

(To be concluded.)

SUMMARY.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.—The election of Presidential Electors took place in this State on Monday last. The following are all the returns we have been able to collect. If they are correct, and we have taken some pains to have them so, the probability is that the State has gone for Harrison.

	Van Buren gain.	Harrison, do.
Kennebec, 24 towns,		286
York, 9 towns,		154
Cumberland, 18 towns,		198
Lincoln, 17 towns,	68	
Franklin, 11 towns,		63
Hancock, 15	34	
Washington, 20		68
Somerset, 24		106
Penobscot, 37		190
Oxford, 11		40
Waldo, 26	41	
Piscataquis, 6		49
Unincorporated places,	22	

Harrison gain from September,	1154
Van Buren do	165

Harrison net gain, 989

Pennsylvania.—Upon the result in this State we hardly dare risk an opinion. Both parties claim it.

Connecticut and Rhode Island have chosen the Harrison Electors.

New Hampshire has chosen the Van Buren Electors by an increased majority.

We shall probably receive returns enough by next week, from the different States, to determine for a

certainly which party has succeeded in the Presidential election. Up to Wednesday evening last, elections had taken place in 20 States, giving 251 out of the 294 Electoral Votes.

Jacob Schwartz, commonly called Black, of Wadoboro', who has been addicted to intemperate drinking for several years past, on Sunday the 18th of Oct. conducted in such a manner that his wife was obliged to leave the house and go to her father's, who lived a few rods distant, taking the three youngest children with her. He threatened to kill his wife, attempted to jump into the well, but was prevented by his brother, &c., all of which passed as the extravagant expressions of a drunken man. About 8 o'clock in the evening he took off an overcoat which he had worn during the day, and hung it up at the window next to the barn, probably that the children who were at home asleep, might not see the light; he then went to the barn, in which was his brother's and his horse, turned his own out, and then crawled into a hole in the mow and set fire to the barn which was consumed, together with himself and its contents!—Temp. Gazette.

In the Marine Court at New-York, on Friday, John Wood, a seaman, late a hand on board the brig Harriet, obtained a verdict for \$225 damages, against John L. Hopper, master of that vessel, for a series of unjustifiable floggings.

We learn from the Mercantile Journal that the N. E. Boundary Commissioners are on their return from their survey of the disputed territory, and that no doubt is upon their minds that the line claimed by the Americans is the true line. We shall probably soon have their report from Washington. The English government will find that Messrs. Featherstonhaugh and Mudge are not infallible.

Criminal Record.—At the Common Pleas Court, held in Springfield the two past weeks, and conducted by Judge Warren, the following were among the convictions. Sylvanus Griswold, for manslaughter, having killed L. S. Chapin in Wilbraham, on the 29th June last, by stabbing him in a quarrel. Plead guilty, and sentenced two years to State Prison. Burges C. Taylor, for assault and robbery in the highway in West Springfield, on the 20th June upon the person of George W. Rice. This was the felon for which a reward of \$500 was offered by the Governor, and \$150 by the selectmen of West Springfield. Great pains were taken to catch him and considerable money contributed in Springfield and vicinity for the purpose. He plead guilty, and was sentenced to State Prison for life.

Extraordinary Movement.—Mehemet Ali, Pacha of Egypt, has resolved on the abolition of the slave trade in all his dominions. He has made a journey to Saunden, to execute his plan and introduce civilization; he encountered difficulties which would have discouraged most men, but he persevered! That such a Prince should commence so benevolent a reform, may be considered a wonder of the age.

The valuable Conservatory, of Mr. Geo. C. Thornburn, at Astoria, L. I., has been destroyed by fire, which broke out on Tuesday morning, at 3 o'clock, in his extensive range of green and hot houses. The loss is serious having destroyed the Camelia Japonica Conservatory, in which were eight hundred of these valuable plants, many of which were twelve feet high, and invaluable; also the hot houses with its rare collection of Cacti and Aloes, and a Papiifera Alata—the largest in the country.

The first Snow. The Transcript says they had quite a Snow storm in Boston on Sunday evening and Monday morning of last week. It commenced snowing about midnight, accompanied with vivid lightning and heavy thunder, which continued for two or three hours, and Monday morning the ground was covered with snow to the depth of an inch or two.

The storm was very severe at New Bedford and Fall River. The thunder was terrific, and hailstones of an unusually large size fell.

The Nashua, (N. H.) Telegraph says that the snow fell there on Monday morning of last week, to the depth of four or five inches.

Some twenty of the Seminole chiefs were in New Orleans on the 20th inst. on their way from Arkansas to Florida. It was understood they went loaded with presents for the purpose of inducing their brethren who are yet in hostility to the whites, to join that portion of the tribe who have already been removed west of the Mississippi.

The Hon. John S. Spencer, U. S. Senator from Maryland, died at his residence in Worcester county on Thursday, Oct. 22.

Texas. Texas papers of the 7th inst. have been received in New Orleans. There was but little prospect of an amicable adjustment of difficulties between the Republic and the Mexican government. Gen. Felix Huston had set on foot a volunteer expedition against the Cumanches. The report of a Mexican invasion had not been confirmed.

Melancholly Coincidence. The New York Sun says that Mr Peter Briggs of N. Y. who died on Monday, had a brother residing in Westchester county. A messenger was despatched to inform that brother of his death, and of the intention of the friends to carry the body for burial to Westchester county. That messenger on his way passed another, who was coming from Westchester, to bring the news to the other brother who had died in that place. Both messengers reached their destination at nearly the same time, and both brothers were consigned to the tomb in Westchester together. Each had died in ignorance of the illness of the other.

Railroad Accident. We learn by the Advertiser that a serious accident occurred on the Worcester Railroad on Saturday last. A woman while walking over the canal bridge on the Worcester Railroad, where the track is double, unexpectedly met the train, and probably being confused, and not knowing which track the train was on, she fell, and throwing her arms across the rail, it was cut entirely off by the engine. The engine man used every effort to stop the train and had nearly succeeded. The woman immediately received every attention which her situation required. —Boston Post.

We see it stated in the papers that the schr. Amistad and cargo were sold at New London, on Thursday of last week. The vessel, says the Boston Times, sold for 245 dollars. She was 50 or 60 tons burden, built in Cuba, rather old, and not of much value. The cargo consisted principally of dry goods suitable for a West India market. Many of them were damaged by the negroes after they got possession of the vessel.

About 200 of the sect called "Latter Day Saints," recently sailed from Liverpool for this country, intending to take up their residence in Michigan. About 2000, it is said are to embark in the spring for the same locality.

The French are now building fourteen 100 gun ships, nine of 90 guns and 20 frigates.

Portsmouth and Roanoke Railroad, Va. The revenue arising from all operations on the road during the fiscal year, ending the 30th of Sept. 1840, amounts to the sum of \$77,401.97, exceeding the current expense; during the same time in the sum of \$16,294.59.

Royal Diamonds. The precious King of Hanover, Duke of Cumberland, has commenced a suit against the Queen of England, for the restoration of diamonds amounting in value to the sum of £50,000, which it is contended, belong to the crown of Hanover, and it is alleged that the deposition of the Princess Augusta has been taken, her infirm state of health rendering such a course necessary.

A shocking accident took place at Redding, Conn. on Friday last. Mr Stoddard J. Frost, of New York city, while on an excursion with his wife and a lady whose name we have not learned was thrown from his carriage and instantly killed. Mrs. Frost was slightly and the other lady badly injured.

John B aged 13 years, son of David Harrison, carrier, of 3d avenue, N. Y. was killed on Thursday afternoon by a kick from his father's horse while unharnessing.

The New York Times states that the Insurance offices in that city are in consequence of the war news from Europe, unwilling to take long risks.

Married,

In Topsham, Mr Arthur L. Wilson to Miss Henrietta Potter, both of T.

In Clinton, Mr. John H. Cowan, to Miss Mary Doe of Burnham.

In Bowdoinham, Mr. James Hunter of Pittsfield, to Miss Sarah Dingley.

In Paris, Mr. Richmond B. Keen of Sumner, to Miss Jane C. Fuller.

DIED,

In Albion, Mr. Samuel Baker, a revolutionary pensioner, aged 85.

At Livermore Falls, Mr. James Walker, aged 23.

In Augusta, Mr. Rufus Haskell, 66.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday Oct. 26, 1840.

(From the Daily Advertiser and Patriot.)

At market, 3300 Beef Cattle, 775 Stores, 8500 Sheep and 875 Swine.

Prices—Beef Cattle—First quality \$5.50 a 5.75; second quality 5 a 5.25; third quality 3.75 a 4.75.

Barrelling Battle—Mess \$5 No 1 \$4.

Stores—Yearlings \$5 a 9; two year old, \$12 a 13.

three year old \$21 a 26.

Sheep—Lots sold for 1.25, 1.33, 1.42, 1.75, 1.92, \$2, 2.50.

Swine—Sales quick at a small advance. Lots to peddle at 3 1-4 a 3 1-2 for Sows and 4 1-4 a 4 1-2 for Barrows. At retail from 4 to 5 1-2 cts.

THE WEATHER.

Range of the Thermometer and Barometer at the office of the Maine Farmer.

1840.	Thermom.	Barometer.	Weather.	Wind.
30,	60 60 57	29,25 29,25 29,20	R. C. Cs.	SE. W.
31,	46 47 46	29,30 29,40 29,40	C. C. C.	N. N.
1,	36 43 40	29,55 29,60 29,75	F. F. F.	NW. N.
2,	34 39 41	30,00 30,00 29,95	F. F. F.	NW. SW.
3,	37 43 44	29,90 29,85 29,80	F. F. C.	S. W.
4,	39 43 41	29,85 29,80 29,80	C. C. C.	N. N.
5,	36 40 40	29,75 29,65 29,65	F. F. F.	NNW. N.

F. for Fair weather; C. cloudy; S. snow; R. rain. The place of these letters indicate the character of the weather at each time of observation—viz. at sunrise, a noon, and at sunset.

s. Shower between observations.

The direction of the wind is noted at sunrise and sunset.

Wood Wanted.

A few cords of Wood wanted immediately in payment for the Farmer.

November, 1840.

Winthrop Lyceum.

A meeting of the Winthrop Lyceum will be holden at the Masonic Hall in this Village, on Tuesday evening next, at half past 6 o'clock.

Question for Discussion—"Is it right of two moral evils to choose the less?"

Ladies and Gentlemen are respectfully invited to attend. Winthrop, Nov., 5, 1840.

Notice.

I HEREBY relinquish to my son, PAUL HARVEY, the remainder of his time until he becomes twenty-one years of age, and as I shall claim no part of his earnings, hereafter, I shall pay no debts of his contracting after this date.

JOHN HARVEY.

Attest: CONVIS LOWELL.

Winthrop, Nov. 2, 1840.

3w44

To the Assessors.

of the several Towns and Plantations in Maine.

IT having been understood that the Assessors of the towns and plantations having deposited their returns of the State Valuation, required to be lodged in the office of the Secretary of State, in the Post Office; not being aware, it is presumed, of the expense to which they are subjected—and such returns being chargeable with letter postage, the undersigned deems it a duty to apprise such Assessors as have forwarded their returns by mail, and all others concerned, that not feeling authorized to incur the expense to the State, no such returns, will be taken from the Post Office, without special directions by the Legislature.

PHILIP C. JOHNSON, Sec'y. of State.

Notice.

JAMES PULLEN intends to leave or move from East Winthrop, Maine, on or before the 15th of Nov. next, and this notice is to call the immediate attention of all who may have any account or unsettled business with the subscriber to adjust the same, and all demands not presented before I leave will be considered as settled forever. (It is common after a person leaves a place that many will say they have gone off in debt, or left accounts unsettled, and no one to gain say, so the story may go to the injury of the absentee or his friends, if perchance he may have left any behind.)

N. B. Any person who may have friends or business in any of the Western or Southern States, can have an opportunity to have the same attended to by the subscriber in person or otherwise as the case may require.

JAMES PULLEN.

East Winthrop, Oct. 22, 1840.

3w42

To all whom it may concern,

Be it known, that I have relinquished unto my minor son, JONAS HOLMAN TORSEY, his time from and after this date, that I shall claim none of his earnings nor pay any debts of his contracting after this date.

WILLIAM TORSEY.

Winthrop, Oct. 2d, 1840.

OWEN DEELY, Tailor,

RESPECTFULLY informs his friends and customers that he still continues to carry on the above business at his old stand in Winthrop, and from his long experience in cutting, and a thorough knowledge of manufacturing, he flatters himself that he will be able to give entire satisfaction to those who may favor him with their custom.

A few good Coat Makers wanted, to whom good wages will be paid.

Also, one or more Girls wishing to learn the trade will find a good chance.

CUTTING done at short notice, and warranted to fit, if made up by experienced hands.

Winthrop, Oct. 22, 1840.

42

N. B.—He has just received from New-York the Fall and Winter Fashions for 1840.

KENNEBEC, ss.—At a Court of Probate holden at Augusta, within and for the County of Kennebec, on the last Monday of October, A. D. 1840.

MIRINDA SPRAGUE, widow of Moses Sprague late of Greene in said county, applied for an allowance out of the personal estate of said deceased:

Ordered, That the said widow give notice to all persons interested, by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks successively in the Maine Farmer printed at Winthrop that they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Augusta in said county, on the last Monday of November, next at ten of the clock in the forenoon, and show cause, if any they have, why the same should not be allowed.

H. W. FULLER, Judge.

A true copy. Attest: J. S. TURNER, Register. 43

KENNEBEC, ss.—At a Court of Probate holden at Augusta, within and for the County of Kennebec, on the last Monday of October, A. D. 1840.

MARY QUIMBY, widow of Benjamin Quimby late of Greene in said county, deceased, having applied for an allowance out of the personal estate of said deceased:

Ordered, That the said Widow give notice to all persons interested by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks successively in the Maine Farmer printed at Winthrop, that they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Augusta in said county, on the last Monday of November at ten of the clock in the forenoon, and show cause, if any they have, why the same should not be allowed.

H. W. FULLER, Judge.

A true copy. Attest: J. S. TURNER, Register. 43

KENNEBEC, ss.—At a Court of Probate holden at Augusta, within and for the County of Kennebec, on the last Monday of October, A. D. 1840.

EZRA FISK, Esq., Guardian of Esther A. S., Moses S., and Charles S. Marshall of Fayette in said county, having presented his account of guardianship of said minors for allowance:

Ordered, That the said Guardian give notice to all persons interested, by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks successively in the Maine Farmer printed at Winthrop, that they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Augusta in said county, on the last Monday of November, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, and show cause, if any they have, why the same should not be allowed.

H. W. FULLER, Judge.

A true copy. Attest: J. S. TURNER, Register. 43

KENNEBEC, ss.—At a Court of Probate holden at Augusta within and for the County of Kennebec, on the last Monday of October, A. D. 1840.

EDWARD MITCHELL, Esq., administrator on estate of Samuel Webb late of Winthrop in said county, deceased, having presented his first account of administration of the Estate of said deceased for allowance:

Ordered, That the said administrator give notice to all persons interested, by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks successively in the Maine Farmer printed at Winthrop that they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Augusta in said county, on the last Monday of November at ten of the clock in the forenoon, and show cause, if any they have, why the same should not be allowed.

H. W. FULLER, Judge.

A true copy. Attest: J. S. TURNER, Register.

WE the subscribers having been appointed Commissioners by the Hon. H. W. Fuller Esq., Judge of Probate of wills, &c., for the County of Kennebec, to receive and examine the claims of creditors to the estate of JOHN BATES, late of Leeds in said County, deceased, represented insolvent, do hereby give notice that six months are allowed to said creditors to bring in and prove their claims, and that we shall attend that service at the dwelling house of Ruel Pettingill, in said Leeds on the first Monday of December, the first Monday of January, and third Monday of March next, at ten o'clock in the morning of each day.

GEORGE TURNER.

RUEL PETTINGILL.

Leeds, September, 28th, 1840.

3w43

NOTICE is hereby given that the subscriber has been duly appointed Administrator of all and singular the goods and estate which were of ABIGAIL BENSON, late of Winthrop, in the county of Kennebec, deceased, intestate, and has undertaken that trust by giving bond as the law directs:—All persons therefore, having demands against the Estate of said deceased are desired to exhibit the same for settlement; and all indebted to said Estate are requested to make immediate payment to

EZEKIEL HOLMES, Administrator.

Winthrop, Sept. 28, 1840.

3w43

Whitman's Separator and Grain Cleanser.

THE subscriber informs the public that he has received Letters Patent for his newly invented Separator, and is prepared to accommodate purchasers at short notice.—The machine thrashes and cleanses the grain in a thorough manner at one operation. Call at his shop in Winthrop Village where may also be found first rate Horse Powers of his construction.

LUTHER WHITMAN.

Winthrop, Sept. 10, 1840.

For Sale.

THE subscriber will sell his farm in the town of Minot containing about seventy five acres, situated on the east part of said town and on the river-road leading from Lewistown Falls to Livermore, where the mail passes twice week. For further particulars apply to

JOHN A. DUNNING.

East Minot, Oct. 22d, 1840.

4w43

Grave Stones.

THE Subscriber would inform the public that he still carries on the STONE CUTTING business near the foot of Winthrop street, a little above his old stand in Hallowell, a few doors north of T. B. Brooks' Iron Store, where he keeps as usual, beautiful lots of New York White Marble almost equal to the Italian Marble; also Thomaston Marble; Quincy and Readfield Slate of which may be found manufactured at his shop, Monuments, Tomb Tables, Grave Stones, paint mills and paint stones. Also has shops furnished with grave stones at Gardiner, Agent, Mr. Wm. Gould; Readfield, Agent, Mr. John Lambard; Farmington, Ebenezer Childs, Esq.; Wilton, Mr. Joseph Bradbury. At all of his shops orders promptly attended to. Occasional visits will be made at each of these places for the purpose of engraving stones left in the care of these agents, after inscriptions are left for them. He now as in times past, pledges himself to give satisfaction in work, prices, &c. or satisfy all who call for their trouble. References can be had to his work, which may found in almost every part of the State, where it has been accumulating for fifteen years past. Much of his work has his name engraved below the inscriptions. He has also made arrangements with Col. Sullivan Dwight, owner of an extensive marble manufactory in Thomaston, to be supplied with chimney-pieces, fire frames, hearth stones, facings, &c. of beautiful Egyptian, Irish, and Thomaston Marble, in such a way as to be able to sell them cheaper than ever before. A few patterns are now set up at his shop in Hallowell. To companies who want to purchase any of the above a liberal discount will be made.

JOEL CLARK, Jr.

N. B. J. C. Jr. has a number of monuments on hand and attends to the building all kinds at short notice. 7.

Machine Shop and Iron Foundry.

HOLMES & ROBBINS would inform the public that they continue to carry on the MACHINE MAKING BUSINESS as usual, at the Village in GARDINER, where they will be in readiness at all times to accommodate those who may favor them with their custom. They have an IRON FOUNDRY connected with the Machine Shop, where persons can have almost every kind of Casting made at short notice. Persons wishing for Mill work or Castings for Mills, will find it particularly to their advantage to call, as the assortment of Patterns for that kind of work is very extensive and as good as can be found in any place whatever.

Castings of various kinds kept constantly on hand—such as Cart and Wagon Hubs of all sizes, Fire-Frames, Oven, Ash and Boiler Mouths, Cart and Wagon Boxes, Gears of different kinds and sizes, &c. &c.

All orders for Machinery or Castings executed on the most reasonable terms, without delay.

Repairing done as usual.

Gardiner, March 21, 1840.

121y

Vegetable Syrup.

FOR FEMALES, en enciente.

THE most safe and effectual remedy for lessening the pains and sufferings attendant on paturient WOMEN, that has ever been discovered.

Directions for using it, &c., are briefly stated in a small pamphlet that accompanies each bottle; in which are certificates from Physicians, who have prescribed it, and other Gentlemen whose Wives have used it.

Prepared by S. PAGE, Druggist, Hallowell, Me. to whom orders may be directed.

It is also for sale by the dozen or single bottle by W. C. Stimson & Reed, No. 114 State Street, Boston; Noyes & Robbins, Winthrop; J. E. Ladd, Augusta; Charles Tarbell, Gardiner; I. Alden, Waterville; Nath'l Weld, Bath; G. Williston, Brunswick; A. Carter & Chs. E. Beckett, Portland; Geo. W. Holden, Bangor; W. O. Poor, Belfast; Doct. J. A. Berry, Saco; T. Fogg & Co. Thomaston; R. S. Bladell, East Thomaston; Edmund Dana, Wiscasset; C. Church, Jr. Phillips; H. B. Lovejoy, Fayette; John Sides, Waldoboro'; S. W. Bates, Norridgewock.

March 7, 1840.

9eoptf.

Superior Ploughs for Sale.

A NEW and extensive assortment of the celebrated Ploughs, manufactured by Ruggles, Nourse & Mason, has been received. They are offered for sale at low prices and on accommodating terms.

Persons desirous of purchasing GOOD PLOUGHS are requested to call and examine for themselves.

NOYES & ROBBINS.

Winthrop, Sept. 1840.

N. B. The "Side Hill Plough" is kept constantly on hand, as above.

MISCELLANEOUS.

POETICAL MNEMONICS.

The honest old matron who ties a thread around her little finger to assist her memory, does a very simple, but a very philosophical thing. Learned and wise men have followed her example, if not in the particular, at least in the principle. Few possessions are more valuable than a good memory. So much, both in the common affairs of life and in all the departments of learning, is dependent on this faculty, that much ingenuity has been expended in investigating the methods of education best adapted to strengthen it, and in devising artificial expedients to assist it when defective.

Systems of mnemonics derive their utility from the principle of association: a connection of some kind is established in the mind between the thing to be remembered and some sensible object which is likely, at the required time, to occur to observation. When one of the objects thus associated strikes the attention, the other is immediately recollected. Thus, the particular object or event which a thread on the finger is designed to recall, occurs spontaneously to mind the moment the thread is noticed.

Poetry, from the regular succession of its numbers, and the frequent recurrence of similar sounds, is easily remembered, and has for this reason often been preferred to prose as a means of conveying knowledge. Previous to the invention of writing, laws and history were composed in the harmony of verse, and thus transmitted orally through many generations with an accuracy which could not have been preserved in mere prose narrations. Many of the most important doctrines of the Holy Scriptures are in the original expressed in the language of poetry; and the peculiar manner in which the Hebrews chanted their poetical writings, tended to impress them permanently on the mind. Philosophical treatises have been composed in verse with the same design. Pope gives as a reason for putting his "Essay on Man" into poetry, that the sentiments would be more easily retained by the reader. The same reason is assigned for giving the poetical form to some geological treatises which were written at Oxford about twenty years since. The relative position of the different rocks, from granite up to chalk marl, and the organic remains peculiar to each, are described in easy numbers. We give an example from the introduction to the first piece:

A POETICAL GEOGNOSEY.

"When Nature was young and Earth in her prime,
All the rocks were invited with Neptune to dine;
On his green bed of state he was gracefully seated,
And each as they entered was civilly greeted.
But in choosing their seats some confusion arose,
Much jostling and scrambling and treading on toes;
Till with some dislocations, and many *wry faces*,
They at length became quiet, and kept their own places.

Reveal, heavenly Muse, for I know thou art able,
How each guest in succession was ranged at the table;
How the dinner was served, and the name of each dish.

Whether Nautilite, Ammonite, tortoise or fish.
First Granite sat down, and then beckon'd his queen,
But Gneiss stepp'd in rudely, and elbow'd between,
Pushing Mica-Slate farther; when she with a frown,
Cried, "You crusty, dislocated, and hump-back'd old clown!"

But this was all sham,—for, to tell you the truth,
They had been the most intimate friends from her youth.

But let scandal cease. See the whole tribe of Slates,
All eager and ready to rush to their plates;
Oh, heavens how the family pour in by dozens,
Of brothers and sisters, and nephews, and cousins!
The elder-born Limestones ran in between these,—
They were very well known to be fond of a squeeze.
Now before we proceed with our story, it meet is
That we hint at the amours of Calcium and Thetis:
But the tale shall be short. 'Tis agreed by all sages,
Hence sprang all the Limestones of different ages:
The oldest looked white; and no wonder she should,
She had never once dined upon animal food."

After much "jostling and scrambling," all at length found their places, and sat—geologists only can tell us how long—feasting on "Nautilite, Ammonite, tortoise, or fish," according to their several tastes.

But perhaps the reader would like to know their style of etiquette in retiring from the banquet, for, if we may judge from present appearances, they withdrew in not very good order. The feast ended thus:

"Long lasted the dinner. No rock from his seat
Ever moved or evinced the least wish to retreat;
And old Neptune found out, as the wise ones aver,
When the rocks are once seated, they love not to stir.
So he rose unobserved, and began to retire;
But 'tis whisper'd the sea-god already smelt fire.
Be this as it may—a deep hollow sound
Still nearer and nearer was heard under ground;
'Twas the chariot of Pluto,—in whirlwinds of flame
Through a rent in the earth to the dinner he came.
'Oh, by Styx, & by Hecate, my rage I won't smother,

What—Nep give a feast without asking his brother!
Though I am King of Hell—what, am I such a sinner
That I can't be invited to smoke after dinner?
Let Nep with his waves and his waters all go to—
I'll make the rocks dance, or my name is not Pluto.
Thrice he stamped in a rage, and with crashes like
thunder,

The earth open'd wide, and the rocks burst asunder,
And the red streaming lava flowed over and under.
It flowed far and wide, till grim Pluto said, 'Halt!
And ranged it in columns and files of Basalt!"

But to conceive of the loves and revels of "Granite and Grauwacke," certainly shocks the imagination as much as it assists the memory. The composition of several rocks is given in the form of recipes, and entitled "Geological Cookery."

"TO MAKE GRANITE."

Of Felspar and Quartz, a large quantity take,
Then pepper with Mica, and mix up and bake.
This Granite for common occasions is good;
But on Saint-days and Sundays, be it understood,
If with bishops and lords in the state room you dine,
Then sprinkle with Topaz, or else Tourmaline.

"TO MAKE PORPHYRY."

Let Silix and Argil be well kneaded down,
Then color at pleasure, red, grey, green, or brown:
When the paste is all ready, stick in here and there
Small crystals of Felspar, both oblong and square.

"TO MAKE PUDDING-STONE."

To vary your dishes, and shun any waste,
Should you have any left of the very same paste,
You may make a plum-pudding; but then do not stint
The quantum of pebbles—Chist, Jasper, or Flint."

The inductive methods of education, which, within the present age have grown into so great popularity, have in a degree obviated the necessity of mnemonic aids. The student is now made acquainted with the reasons of the rules he uses, and if, in any particular case, he should forget the rule needed, he has only to refer back to the elementary principles, and a rule is at once suggested. But one or two ages past, when the pupil was obliged to commit to memory were of great service. Accordingly, ancient elementary books abound in rules poetically expressed.

Arithmetical and grammatical rules were often put into the form of poetry, which, whatever might be said of its doggerel character, was no doubt quite an auxiliary to the learner. Some of these are still in general use. We apprehend there are few who have not proved the convenience of the well known formula:

"Thirty days hath September,
April, June, and November,
All the rest have thirty-one,
Except February alone,
Which hath twenty eight in fine,
But leap-year gives it twenty-nine." [Classic.

THE NOBILITY OF LABOR.

BY O. DEWEY.

So material do I deem this policy—the true nobility of labor I mean—that I would dwell on it a moment longer, and in a larger view. Why then in the great scale of things, is labor ordained for us? Easily, had it so pleased the Great Ordainer, might it have been dispensed with. The world itself might have been a mighty machine for producing all that man wants.

The motion of the globe on its axis might have been going forward; without man's aid, houses might have risen like an exhalation,

With the proud sword
Of dulcet symphonies and voices sound
Built like a temple;"

gorgeous furniture might have been placed in them, and soft couches and luxuriant banquets, spread by hands unseen; and man clad with fabrics of nature's weaving, rather imperial purple might have been sent to disport himself in those Elysian palaces: "Fortunate had been the scene ordained for us in human life!" But where then, tell me had been human energy, perseverance, patience, heroism?

Cut off labor with one blow from the world, and mankind had sunk to a crowd of Asiatic voluptuaries. No, it had not been fortunate. Better that the earth be given to man as a dark mass, whereupon to labor. Better that the rude and unsightly materials be provided in the ore bed and forest, for him to fashion to splendor and beauty. Better, I say; not because of that splendor and beauty, but because the act creating them is better than the things themselves; because exertion is nobler than enjoyment; because the laborer is greater and more worthy of honor than the idler.

I call upon those whom I address, to stand up for the nobility of labor. It is Heaven's great ordinance for human improvement. Let not the great ordinance be broken down.

What do I say? It is broken down, and it has been

broken down for ages. Let it then be built again—here, if any where, on these shores of a new world, of a new civilization. But how, it may be asked is it broken down? Do not men toil, it may be said? They do indeed toil; but they too generally do it because they must.

Many submit to it as in some sort a degrading necessity, and they desire nothing on earth so much as to escape from it. They fulfil the great law of labor in the letter, but break it in the spirit. To some field of labor, mental or manual, every idler should hasten as a chosen, covered field of improvement.

But so he is not compelled to do under our imperfect civilization. On the contrary he sits down, and blesses himself in idleness. This way of thinking is the the heritage of the abused and unjust feudal system, under which serfs labored and gentlemen spent their lives in fighting and feasting. It is time that this opprobrium of toil were done away.

Ashamed to toil art thou? Ashamed of thy dingy workshop and dust labor field; of thy hard hand scarred with service, more honorable than that of war; of thy soiled and weather stained garment, on which mother nature has embroidered mist, sun and rain, fire and steam—her own heraldic honors! Ashamed of these tokens and titles, and envious of the flaunting robes of imbecile idleness and vanity? It is a treason to nature—it is impiety to heaven—it is breaking heaven's great ordinance.—Toil, I repeat, toil, either of the brain, of the heart, of the hand—it is the only true manhood, the only true nobility.

Wit in choosing Texts.—A young preacher, in the time of James I, being appointed to hold forth before the Vice-Chancellor and heads of colleges of Oxford, chose for his text, "What, cannot ye watch one hour?" which carried a personal allusion, as the Vice Chancellor happened to be one of those heavy-headed persons who cannot attend church without falling asleep. The preacher repeating his text in an emphatic manner, at the end of every division of his discourse, the unfortunate Vice Chancellor as often awoke, and this happened so often, that at last all present could see the joke. The Vice Chancellor was so nettled at the disturbance he had met with, and the talk it occasioned, that he complained to the Archbishop of Canterbury, who immediately sent for the young man to reprove him for what he had done.—In the course of the conference which ensued between the Archbishop and the preacher, the latter gave so many proofs of his wit and good sense, that his grace procured him the honor of preaching before the king. Here, also, he had his joke; he gave out his text in these words—"James 1st and 6th, Waver not," which, of course, every body present saw to be a stroke at the indecorous character of the Monarch.—James, equally quick-sighted, exclaimed, "He is at me already;" but he was upon the whole so pleased with his clerical wit, as to make him one of his chaplains in ordinary. He afterwards went to Oxford, and preached a farewell sermon on the text, "Sleep on now, and take your rest."

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